

Seattle-King County Department of Public Health (SKCDPH)

African American Community Leaders Roundtable

Meeting of February 18, 1999

Notes Prepared by Naomi Johnson

Attendees:

Carol Allen, Central Area Senior Center
June Belefond, Seattle-King County Department of Public Health
Cheza Collier Seattle-King County Department of Public Health
Shelley Cooper-Ashford, Center for Multicultural Health
Walt Hubbard, Mayor's Office
Linda Jones, Center for Muticultural Health
Naomi Johnson, Seattle-King County Department of Public Health

Alonzo Plough, Ph.D., MPH, Seattle-King County Department of Public Health
Donald Proby, Seattle-King County Department of Public Health
Millie Russell, EdD, Wa State Assoc. of Black Prof. in Health Care
Mike Smyser, Seattle-King County Department of Public Health,
Alvin Thompson, MD, Wa State Assoc. of Black Prof. in Health Care, KC BOH
Henry Ziegler, MD, Seattle-King County Department of Public Health

Topic	Discussion	Next Steps
Welcome and Goals	Alonzo Plough welcomed the participants to the third session of this work group Roundtable.	The meeting followed a pre-defined agenda with the goal of identifying a few projects that the Roundtable participants can collaborate to accomplish. Consensus was the Shelly Cooper Ashford and the Africian American Coalition / Center for Multicultural Health serve as the umbrella organization for continued work of the Roundtable. About half the Roundtable already has membership in the CMH. CMH was charged to provide leadership and convene whatever work groups are required to complete the projects identified today.
Finalized Structure for Collaboration		
Website	<p>There was high interest in working on the development of a web site. This is envisioned as a tool to build evidence of a body of work. This could be a place for a practice-based site incorporating studies, data, and health care issues of relevance to people of color. The suggestion was made that this site connect to other locations and sites, serving as a link to other areas of information. The goal would be to make it easy to access data and share the latest in developments. Timely communication is the essence of collaboration and the goal in designing and maintain this type of website.</p> <p>A request was made that thought be given to how this can be accomplished and what organization would best be the umbrella organization for this project. This organization should be a 501c corporation.</p>	<p>There was discussion about various way to get a student from the University or other education institution to maintain such a web page.</p> <p>A suggestion was made to get Microsoft and other large companies to provide grants and or support of this web page.</p> <p>The CMH does not have a formal structure for funding at this time but will set up a web page account, either individually or through another sponsor agency. Guidelines presented were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Sell easy to accomplish projects❖ Concrete tasks then stop❖ Get community involvement / funding <p>Al Thompson, Carol Allen, and the Council on Coalition volunteered to work on this project and will seek other volunteers from the Roundtable.</p>

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<i>Councilmember McIver Report</i>	The City Council has asked, as part of their budget process, what can be done to address the disparities in delivery of health care to African Americans in particular. The Public Health Department has also been asked to showcase areas where we have excelled. Alonzo noted that the State DOH is engaged in discussions of how to "close the gaps". A meeting will be held in the near future with DOH and the State Committee on how to manage a "One Washington Framework" for this issue.	The group decided to deliver the report in two stages. First, a preliminary report will be compiled to meet the one-month deadline (3/15/99) presented by City of Seattle Councilmember McIver. This will address Councilmember McIver's request that the Public Health Department to present an overview of the steps currently underway to educate and inform regarding disparities in health care. Public Health will provide staffing for this project, in particular for Stage One. The second stage report will be a more polished and showcase document and a project for the Roundtable over the next year.
<i>Fall Conference</i>	There was high enthusiasm for the Roundtable group to sponsor an all-day fall conference. A suggestion was made that the conference focus on women's health issues.	The conclusion of the work group was to conduct a day-long seminar including women's health but also addressing families, older citizens and men and the common values; including basics that people need to know, diabetes, mental health, and elder care issues.
<i>African American Directory/ Inventory</i>	The group discussed an inventory to facilitate consumer education, outreach, include a mission statement and brief discussions of each agency's capacity.	The work group recommended that this inventory be prepared for distribution at the fall conference. A suggestion was made to ensure that this directory / inventory function for health care professionals and be laid out with a medical information intent, not simply as a phone book.
<i>Increase Trust</i>	The group wants to see increased trust between collaborators and partners. The Roundtable discussions have led to increased trust among the this group. Working on mutual, successful projects will contribute toward a conscious effort of collaboration.	Public Health will continue to endorse and support the activities of this consortium and offer staffing for future efforts. It is important that Public Health not be the driver or take the lead from the group and will not convene further meetings. The group asked that Public Health continue to associate with the projects and efforts of the consortium in order to achieve success.
<i>African American Health Initiative</i>	This document compiled by Al Thompson is an excellent synopsis of the visions, goals and leadership opportunities encountered by African American organizations.	Alonzo distributed a copy of those in attendance.
<i>Work Plan</i>	The group informally adjourned at 1:30pm. Alonzo thanked everyone for participating.	Shelly Ashford Cooper will convene future meetings and make a call for volunteers for the four projects identified. Minutes will be distributed to all members of the Roundtable. Chesa Collier and the work group formed by Henry Ziegler will continue to support the projects of this consortium.